

LOUDOUN COUNTY ADVISORY COMMISSION ON YOUTH
MINUTES
JUNE 27TH, 2005

Members and Staff in attendance: Carol Kost, Rhonda Walker, Delbert White, Jr., Judith Romberg, Lance Kelley, Tim Chesnutt, Shannon Walker, Alyssa Samuel, Midori Oglesby, Julia Richberg, Allison Athey, Phung Nghi, Amanda Rivers, Shayna Lane, John Manning, Christina Tulloch, David Weintraub, Mallard Owen, Excused absences were: Kurt Erickson, Hannah Sweeny, Mike McMullen, Andrew Cypher, Trey Whitman, Brandon Ballentin, Trent Lugar, John Santosuosso, Traci Cox, Anna Neilsen, Joseph Lasik, Nancy Lasik, Alexa Severo, Margaret Marshall.

Call to Order

The Chair, Carol Kost called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm on Monday, June 27th, 2005.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: The motion was made by Jessica Walker, seconded by Lance Kelley, and unanimously approved that the minutes of the May 22nd meeting be accepted.

Public Comments

Carol Kost introduced Bess Romberg, a 2005 UVA Graduate and former ACOY youth chair and member for 2 ½ years spoke to new ACOY members. Bess shared her ACOY experiences and how the skills learned there supported her success in college. She explained that the ACOY skills that you receive is invaluable. “ACoy teaches you networking, gov’t and politics, skills for internships. These are the skills that you will need in life” says Bess. Carol stated that she loves working with the students and Bess is a good example why.

David Weintraub, representing Equality Loudoun a community, information and advocacy for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and allied people in Loudoun County, spoke in regards to the School Board recently adopted a policy for regulating theatrical presentations in our public schools. David also stated concern that the new policy will be used to suppress by not allowing students freedom of speech. David offered to be a resource to any student who feels that this policy is affecting them in any way.

Mal Owen, our networking technician, asked youth to help ACOY get the information out to everyone quickly and to use the technology as an efficient method by using the technology. The county has teens putting together a website called Loudounteens.org. Mal stated that everyone will receive an email stating they are added to Yahoo Groups which is a listserv group for ACOY. This way we can reach all our members with one click, have calendar events, files and news.

School Reports:

Broad Run, Foxcroft, Harmony, Heritage and Loudoun County

- None

Loudoun Valley

- Allison Athey reported that Valley Softball is state champs. They are also holding self-defense classes for girls at the skating rink. Officer Shade CRO initiated this program.

Potomac Falls

- Amanda Rivers reported that they had a relay for life which improved school spirit and brought in over \$20,000.

Stone Bridge

- John Manning stated that Stone Bridge will be losing half of its rising sophomores and approximate 70 juniors to the new school.

Loudoun Youth Week Update:

Carol Kost reported that the BOS would like to have more teens participate in planning next year. "We learned a lot our 1st time out and we have a good amount of information to build on for next year" said Carol.

- On June 3rd – Loudoun Allstar Battle of the Bands was held at 6pm at the Stone Bridge High Auditorium. The winner of that event will open for Little Feat on July 24th at the Belmont Country Club Concert Series.
- On June 1st – Intergenerational Dinner Party was held at 7:00pm at Dominion High School with youth and seniors getting together.
- On June 1st – Culture and Cliques was established. It is now an ongoing process that initiated from Loudoun Youth week. This is the next level for teens.

Rhonda thanked Delbert and Brittany for involvement and teamwork during LYW. Rhonda also stated that the teens need to be more involved next year. Rhonda stated that the public response was that we have a Loudoun Youth Month so the teens would have more of an opportunity to participate. We needed a lot more publicity for the event.

Chair's Report: *Carol Kost*

Carol Kost reported there was a brief structure change in the bylaws that was presented to the BOS. There will be 1 adult representative appointed by the BOS for each voting district plus one at-large appointment, 5 youth representatives, 3 community representatives and 2 agency representatives.

Carol handed out literature on a new state law printed by WRAP (Washington Regional Alcohol Program) Group, vice-chair is Kurt Erickson.

Manager's Report/Updates

Charlene Johnson reported events taking place are:

- **July 11th – Teen Board for ACOY** (which will be held every 2nd Monday of the month) at 6:00pm at the Gov't Center. This will be a subcommittee meeting to decide what activities to sign up for. Here is a list of the activities.
 - Teen Centered Network – will focus on Dance Clubs and Douglas Community Center
 - Loudoun Youth Week/ Youth Spring Fest
 - Marketing/ Webpage Design – will focus on ACOY Teen Powerpoint, Not what you think video, Webpage Design and help getting the word out about ACOY activities and reaching more teens.
 - Government Relation – will focus on 2nd Monday of each month at 8:15-8:45 PM and Sat. Breakfast with the BOS and Quarterly Televised Meetings (Teen Town Hall)
 - Youth Services – will focus on Habitat for Humanity/ National Service Day – April 21st thru April 23rd, 2006 and Toys for Tots – December 1-10 and Mentoring Program for Middle School youth.
- **July 25th – Adult Board for ACOY** (will be held every 4th Monday of the month) at 7:00pm at the Gov't Center
- **July 28th-30th – 2005 National Youth Summit**
- **Aug 11th - National Videoconference "Communities Respond to Youth Gangs in America"** The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is pleased to announce the videoconference which will air August 11, 2005, from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. ET. Broadcast live from Washington, DC, this videoconference will highlight community programs and strategies from across the nation to address the problem of youth gangs. Topics may include: leveraging existing resources, partnerships across disciplines, and grassroots and neighborhood efforts.
- **Sept 9th-11th – Weekend Retreat**

Other Comments

Tim Chesnutt reported on the Loudoun Youth Initiative stating its mission as a consortium of representatives from Loudoun County's government, business, faith-based, educational, community, and youth organizations who are committed to coordinating Loudoun County's substantial resources to address the diverse needs of Loudoun's youth. Tim stated that the BOS is behind the youth 100% and they want to hear from the youth.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:27p.m.

The next meeting will be held on July 25th at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Mayne

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Acting Secretary